The Karnataka State Cooperative Marketing Fed. Ltd. (KSCMF), Bangalore	24,5000
The North Karnataka Onion Growers Cooperative Society (NKOGCS), Hubli	10,000
A.P. State Trading Corporation (APSTC), Hyderabad	35,000
	7,00,000

State-wise data for export of onion is not maintained.

(c) No, Sir. Moreover, the export of Bangalore Rose onion carried out by KSCMF and Karnataka Agricultural Produce Processing & Export Corporation (KAPPEC) and Krishnapuram onion carried out by A.P. State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd., (APMARKFED) are not subjected to any quantitative ceilings.

Growth rate of capital and consumer goods

3123. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth rate of capital goods and core industry is deteriorating for the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the growth rate of each of these sectors during the last six months; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by Government to boost the growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) Capital goods sector has shown a fluctuating trend during last six months of the fiscal year 2001-02. The sector, however, registered a positive growth rate of 1.6 per cent during February, 2002 as against-5.2 per cent registered during February, 2001. The six

infrastructure industries, namely crude petroleum, petroleum refinery products, cement coal, electricity and finished steel, have also shown signs of recovery during the last six months for which data is available. The details of growth rate of each of these sectors during last six months are given below:

Item	Sept'01	Oct'01	Nov'01	Dec'01	Jan'02	Feb'02
Capital goods	−7.3	−0.3	−1.9	−4.1	−4.3	1.6
Crude petroleum	0.7	1.2	0.6	−1.1	−1.4	−0.4
Petroleum refinery products	−0.1	−2.8	7.4	−9.1	9.9	0.3
Cement	18.1	8.1	7.9	14.8	17.4	21.2
Finished steel	5.6	5.3	0.7	3.7	8.0	5.6
Coal	9.6	9.2	12.0	2.4	5.2	8.3
Electricity	4.1	−0.6	1.7	3.7	3.8	2.6
Overall (six industries)	5.2	2.2	3.3	4.2	5.9	4.9

Several cyclical and structural factors such as, lack of demand, slow down in investments, continued high real interest rates, infrastructure constraints particularly in power, investment and business cycles and inherent adjustment lags of corporate restructuring are main reasons for slow growth in industries, especially the capital goods sector.

(d) The Government has taken the following initiatives to improve performance of these sectors:

* Launch of PMs mega road projects, which will boost demand for cement and steel industries.
* The Government has announced guidelines for allowing 100 percent FDI in the development of integrated townships and regional urban infrastructure. This is expected to boost housing/ real estate sector and also boost production in cement and steel sectors.
* Tax holiday for infrastructure development and tax incentives for housing sector have been announced.
* The Government has signed MoU with States to reform State

Electricity Boards, and initiated steps, which include time-bound programme for installation of 100 percent metering, energy audit at all levels, specific programmes for reduction and eventual elimination of power theft.

* Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme with an enhanced plan allocation of Rs. 3500 crores has been announced in the Union Budget 2002-03 with a renewed focus on transmission and distribution.

* Government is taking steps to increase the domestic production of crude oil by offering blocks under the new exploration licensing policy.

* Administered Price Mechanism (APM) for petroleum products has been phased out. The pricing of petroleum products will now be market determined.

* DIPP has proposed to conduct sector-wise studies in respect of capital goods, electrical manufacturing, pulp and paper and cement industries with a view to enhance the competitiveness of these industries.

* Companies Act has been amended to allow buy-back of shares, by the companies.

* Union Budget 2002-03 has abolished 16 percent special excise duty on all except eight items.

* Additional 15 percent depreciation on new plant and machinery has been proposed.

* Reduction of peak rate of custom duty to 30 percent from 1.3.2002 and rationalisation of custom duty rates to two duty rates by 2004-05.